

Why Schutzhund Australia Inc.?

Schutzhund Australia is a National Organization, whose membership is dedicated to the Sport of Schutzhund through specific promotion of the Shepherd Dog as a working animal. Schutzhund Australia Inc. Clubs stress the importance of responsible dog ownership through training, education and holding Trials, Workshops & Seminars.

❑ Membership Across Australia

Schutzhund Australia has 3 State Representative (Full Member) clubs, as well as affiliated clubs and individual Associate members across Australia and New Zealand and maintains contacts all over the world for the information of members

❑ Performance Records

Schutzhund Australia maintains performance records through scorebooks (for dogs) and Sportpasses (for handlers), along with Helpers Licenses, which record the trials that Helpers work.

❑ Judges Program

Schutzhund Australia Inc. has a Judge's Program in place which helps to train and accredit suitably qualified individuals. Details available through the Schutzhund Australia Office.

❑ Helpers Program

Schutzhund Australia has a Helper's Program in place to train and accredit suitably qualified persons.

❑ Publication

There is a national member's website publication for the information of members and enthusiasts of the sport in this country.

❑ Membership

Membership is available through the Schutzhund Australia Office or contact one of the Schutzhund Australia Chapter Clubs.

APPROVED SCHUTZHUND AUSTRALIA CLUBS

SCHUTZHUND AUSTRALIA INC. – VICTORIA

- **STATE REPRESENTATIVE:**
Eagle Heights Sportdog Club Inc.
Secretary: Vanessa Cowling
Email: vcowling@optusnet.com.au

SCHUTZHUND AUSTRALIA INC. – QUEENSLAND

- **STATE REPRESENTATIVE:**
Gold Coast Sportdog Club Inc.
Secretary: Alison Kollenberg
Email: akollenberg@bigpond.com

SCHUTZHUND AUSTRALIA INC. – NEW ZEALAND

- **STATE REPRESENTATIVE:**
New Zealand United Schutzhund Clubs Inc.
Secretary Beverley Wickenden
Email: bevwick@inspire.net.au

SCHUTZHUND AUSTRALIA INC. – NEW SOUTH WALES

- **STATE REPRESENTATIVE :**
Waratah Sportdog Club Inc.
Secretary: Mario Ferkula
Email: marjan.ferkula@three.com.au

SCHUTZHUND AUSTRALIA INC. – SOUTH AUSTRALIA

- **AFFILIATE :**
Adelaide Sportdog Club Inc.
Secretary: Josephine Eiffe
Email: voneiffel@bigpond.com

INQUIRIES TO:
SCHUTZHUND AUSTRALIA OFFICE:
Contact the SA National Secretary:
Email: akollenberg@bigpond.com



SCHUTZHUND AUSTRALIA INC.

❑ Main breeds recognized by the FCI for Schutzhund training include:

Airedale
Bouvier des Flandres
Boxer
Belgian Shepherd Dog
(Groenael, Laekenois, Malinois, Tervuen)
Dobermann
German Shepherd Dog
Giant Schnauzer
Rottweiler
Dutch Shepherd

❑ Responsible dog ownership

Schutzhund Australia Inc. promotes responsible dog ownership through the principles of training and socializing. All Schutzhund Australia Inc. dogs must perform a BH (Belgithund) Traffic Sure Companion before further advancement in the Sport. This ensures that our dogs are safe and trustworthy in society.

It also teaches the novice, how to handle their dog in all situations at all times.

❑ Levels of Testing and Training

Schutzhund Australia Inc. members can attain titles on their dogs which include:

SchHA – (Obedience & Protection, Level 1)
SchH/VPG 1, 2, 3 – SV rules for the Sport
IPO I, 2, 3 – FCI rules for the Sport
WD 1, 2, 3 (Working Dog / Obedience & Protection 1, 2, 3)
OB (Obedience) 1, 2, 3 - SV rules for the Sport
TR (Tracking) 1, 2, 3 – SV rules for the Sport
FH 1, 2 – Advanced Tracking Titles
IPO-FH – 2 x consecutive FH Tracking title
AD – Endurance Test

❑ Rules and Regulations (Rules followed by Schutzhund Australia Inc. Clubs, its Affiliates & Associates).

Schutzhund Australia Inc. follows the SchH Rules as issued by SV, and the IPO Rules which are international rules for trials issued by the VDH (German Kennel Club) & FCI.

❑ Is this Sport Right for You?

Schutzhund is a sport which requires high levels of dedication but which can teach you how to train and handle your dogs as well as learning in depth detail about the dog and how it functions and its relationship and place in today's society. It also is a form of assessment of the **character of the individual dog**.

Dogsport / Schutzhund / IPO / VPG

The International Sport for Working Dogs

Today in Australia, Dogsport is a fast growing competitive sport. In Europe, Dogsport is called Schutzhund, and has its roots in the breed survey procedure used for years in Europe to determine breed worthiness in dogs, and has been a popular Sport in Europe since the early 1900's. The Sport is undertaken in most countries throughout Europe, the United States, the UK, Ireland, South Africa, Japan, the Philippines and New Zealand.

To really understand what Schutzhund/Dogsport is, it is equally important to understand what it is not.

Schutzhund / Dogsport is not security training.

It is not guard dog or “attack” training.

It is not personal protection training.

In places such as Europe and the United States, requirements for breed suitability include levels of Schutzhund/IPO (international) degrees. World wide agreement reached in recent years has made the Fédération Cynologique Internationale (FCI) IPO rules incumbent to all member countries. The FCI is the head organisation for national dog kennel club associations throughout the world and was founded in 1911. The Australian National Kennel Council (ANKC) is recognized by FCI and visa versa. It is interesting to note that many breeders import Schutzhund/IPO titled dogs from overseas, many of these dogs becoming the leading progenitors of the finest of our purebred Australian stock.

Dogsport/Schutzhund gives us the ability to test our dogs to determine if the temperament is stable and firm and also to view their working ability. It is also a highly competitive Sport, which is maintained by the efforts of teamwork between handler and his/her dog. Schutzhund has been designed for the dog with working ability. The training and trialing involves three phases:

- Tracking
- Obedience
- Character Assessment

There are three Schutzhund levels one can achieve with his/her dog:

- SchH I – considered the novice level
- SchH II – the intermediate level
- SchH III – the advanced level.

The Three Components of the Sport

Tracking is a development of a dog's natural abilities and instincts. It helps build confidence within the dog. The dog must use his nose in locating a track laid either by his handler or a stranger and also have the ability to discover various articles dropped along the track. The track length the age of the track, the number of articles and the size of the articles depends on the level of the Schutzhund degree.

Obedience makes a dog a more enjoyable companion and also makes him more reliable in everyday situations. SchH obedience judges a handler and his/her dog as a team. The team is required to do various exercises, depending on the SchH degree one is attempting to earn.

Protection or Character Assessment as trained for SchH requires that the dog has a reliable temperament and show courage without aggressiveness. It is an advanced and complex form of training testing the dog's natural drives. The Helper in the sport is required to wear protective pants and a special hessian covered sleeve for the dog to grip. The dog must grip correctly or he will lose points. The dog must also be trained to release his grip on command. A dog can fail if he consistently does not release his grip when commanded.

In all three phase of the sport, the dog is also being tested for impartiality. That is if any character traits appear during a Trial which are undesirable e.g. aggression towards people, nervousness, inappropriate reactions to gun etc., the dog/handler team can be dismissed from the trial.

All dogs participating in AUS Trials must have first passed the BH Test (Belgithund) or Traffic Sure Companion Dog test), the international prerequisite for entry into a Schutzhund/IPO Trial.

The Schutzhund Dog is a controlled companion and sporting dog.